

Pleasant Hill Library Task Force Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: **November 9, 2015**

Large Community Room, Pleasant Hill City Hall, 100 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Attendees:

- Michael Harris, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Sue Noack, Pleasant Hill City Council
- Lisa Chow, Supervisor Mitchoff's Office
- Sandy Bonato, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Sherry Sterrett, PH Recreation & Park District Board
- Jack Prosek, Pleasant Hill Library Fund
- Diane Longshore, resident
- Jeff McDaniel, MDUSD
- Patrick Remer, PH Library
- Susan Weaver, Friends of the Library
- Chris Thomas, PH Chamber
- Katherine Bracken, PH Library Commissioner
- Craig Peterson, PH Historical Society
- Sharon Peterson, PH Historical Society
- Jacqueline Byrne, Resident
- Kim Brandt, Resident
- Lenore Krause, Resident
- Terry Gerbracht, Resident
- Ann Luke, PH Chamber
- Diane Longshore, Resident
- Dana Matthews, PH Historical Society
- June Catalano, City Manager
- Danielle Habr, City staff
- Martin Nelis, City staff

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Reports from Sub-committees

Needs Assessment

Chair Harris gave a brief report on the previous meeting at which representatives from the Friends of the Library, the PH Historical Society and the Genealogy Group at the library had discussed the desire to have designated space within a new library for their organizations. The subcommittee will further review the space layout based on a 20,000sf and 25,000sf building.

Outreach Subcommittee

Patrick Remer reported that the Friends of the Library had recently upgraded their website to give it a more robust look. In the future, the Friends website would be an important tool in promoting the new library project.

Funding Subcommittee

Councilmember Noack reported on the funding subcommittee meeting. She stated that the committee discussed how to finance the construction of the new library and that the committee felt that a possible sales tax measure would be the best way to raise the necessary funds. She also commented that the committee was proposing to the Task Force that it make a recommendation to the City to conduct a poll of city residents to gauge the potential support for such a tax measure.

Kim Brandt expressed concern about needing a tax measure to build the library. She asked if the City was able to build the City Hall complex without increasing taxes, why was it not possible to build the new library in a similar manner. City Manager June Catalano responded that the City Hall complex was built using redevelopment funds available to the City. Since redevelopment was no longer an option, some type of revenue generating measure would probably be required to build the new library. Although the City Hall complex was almost fully paid off, the funds being used for this payment were being re-programmed to pay for other infrastructure needs for the City.

Kim Brandt suggested than rather than using a tax measure, the City and the Rec & Park District form a Joint Powers Authority and use their bonding capacity to purchase the land necessary and build the library and ballfields. Chair Harris suggested that the Funding subcommittee explore this possibility at their next meeting. He suggested that a representative from the Rec & Park District attend the Funding subcommittee meetings to participate in this discussion.

Chair Harris asked the Task Force to approve a recommendation from the Funding subcommittee that the City conduct a sample poll of city residents to gauge potential support for a revenue generating measure through a sales tax increase or bond measure to build the new library.

Board member Sterrett stated that outreach and education should be done before surveying the voting public.

After further discussion, it was agreed to agendize the issue of doing a poll to be discussed and acted upon at the next meeting of the Task Force.

Discussion regarding adding a representative from the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce to the Library Task Force

Pleasant Hill Chamber representatives, Ann Luke and Chris Thomas, expressed the desire to have a Chamber representative on the Task Force. The Task Force agreed to this appointment.

Future Meetings

The Task Force agreed to meet again at 11:00 a.m. on December 14, 2015.

The Task Force adjourned at 11:50 am.